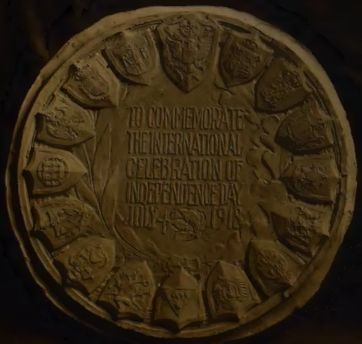
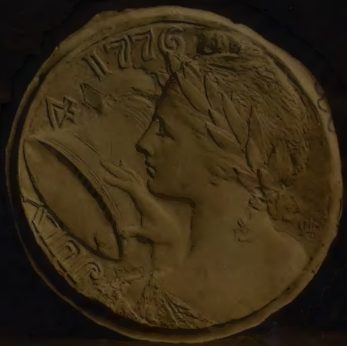
INDEPENDENCE DAY
MEDAL


TO COMMEMORATE
THE INTERNATIONAL
CELEBRATION OF
INDEPENDENCE DAY
JULY 4 1918


1776

1

3/8" apart

2

one block

133 sc

133 sheet

2 1/4

- 2 1/4

Independence Day Medal.

Cost of Dies - - - - $175.

Number of Medals struck

Silver - -	39	
Bronze - -	62	
Unnumbered -	1	102

1.72+

102) 175.
102
730
714
260

173
150
323
4
12.92

#48-50 Bronze Comp.
20 Silver (Complimentary
#2-45 at cost

The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th St., New York, N.Y.

Independence Day Medal. 1918. Obverse shows woman's head with hand upon Liberty Bell. "July 4, 1776." Reverse shows inscription framed by escutcheons of sixteen nations + wreath of laurel + oak. By Allen G. Newman, of the United States.

Copy received July 24, 1919. Entry: Class G, XXc., No. 58412

[SEAL]

Thorvald Solberg
Register of Copyrights.

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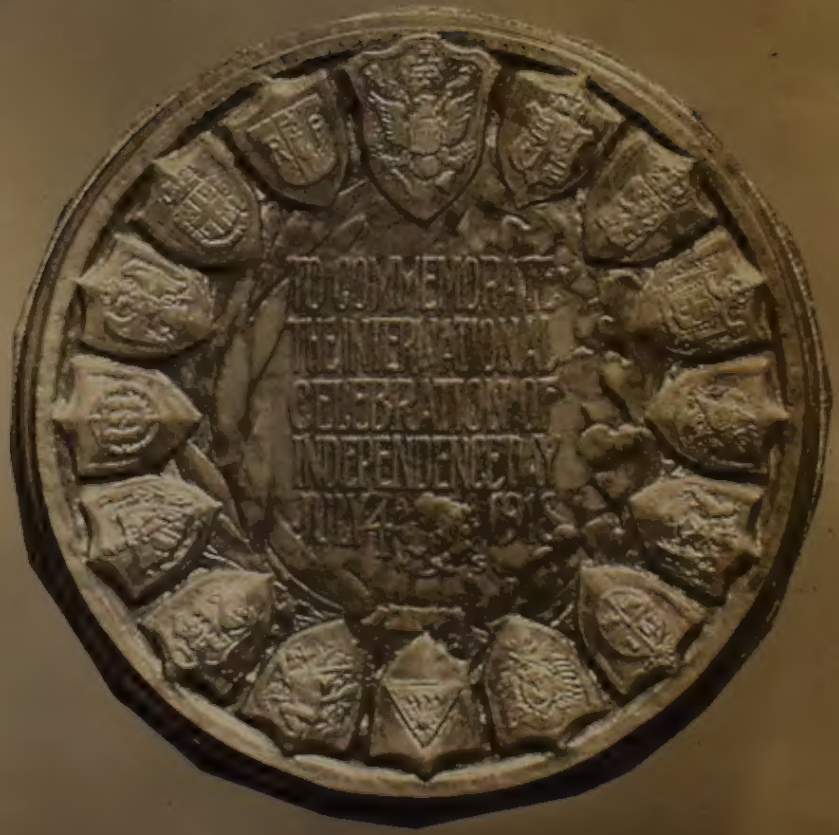
1776


TO COMMEMORATE
THE INTERNATIONAL
CELEBRATION OF
INDEPENDENCE DAY
JUNE 4 1915

INDEPENDENCE DAY MEDAL

FROM THE MODEL BY ALLEN G. NEWMAN

DIAMETER OF MEDAL 2½ INCHES

June 28, 1919

INDEPENDENCE DAY MEDAL

The medal illustrated on the first page of this circular commemorates the international celebration of Independence Day, 1918. At that time the United States had just entered the world war and the celebration of our national birthday by the allied nations, and by other nations not engaged in the conflict had an added significance. The American Numismatic Society has thought this worthy of commemoration in the form of a medal.

The design is by Mr. Allen G. Newman, the winner of the prize offered by the National Arts Club for a Valor Medal, and the designer of a medal of Joan of Arc. On the obverse, he has shown a womanly figure lightly touching the Liberty Bell. The inscription, "July 4, 1776," adds to the significance.

The reverse consists of an inscription framed by the escutcheons of the nations which took part in the celebration. Beginning at the top with the large shield of the United States, we

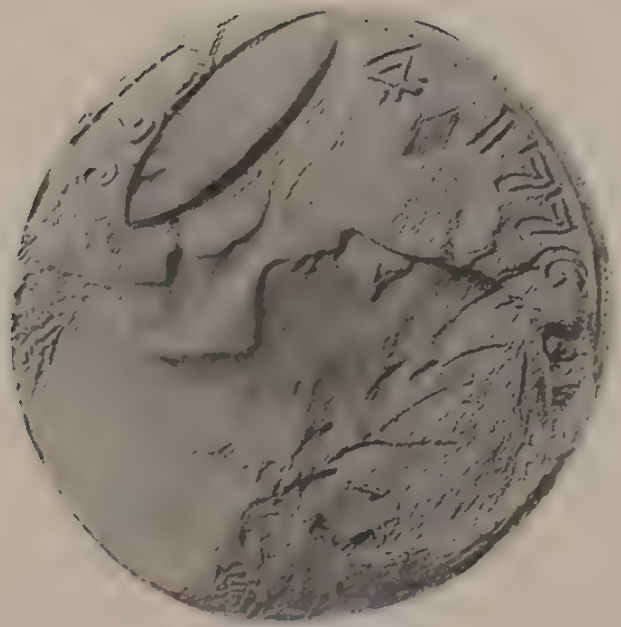
have at its right, Great Britain, followed by Belgium, Greece, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, Argentina, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Peru, Cuba, Portugal, Servia, Italy, ending with the shield of France next to our own shield, with which we started. The inscription in the center reads;—"To commemorate the international celebration of Independence Day, July 4, 1918." The seal of the American Numismatic Society appears at the end, and the whole is enclosed in a wreath of oak and laurel.

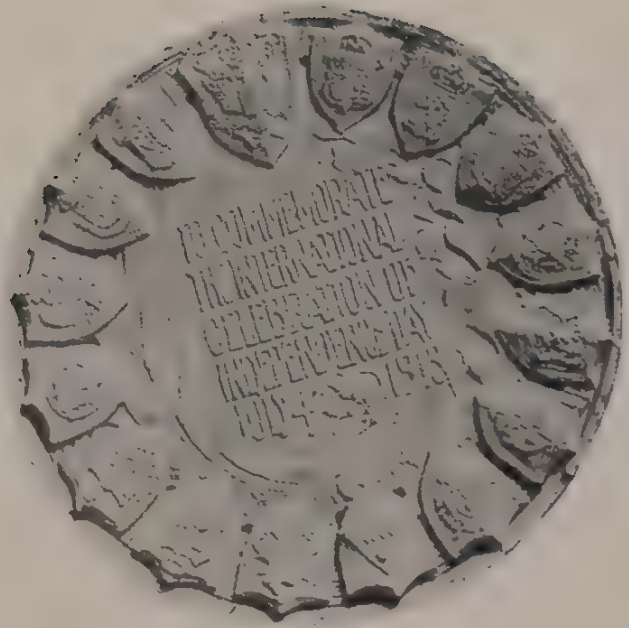
The subscription for this medal is limited to the members of the American Numismatic Society and to the membership of the Mayor's Committee on National Defense.

The price for the medal in silver is fixed at ten dollars—that in bronze, at five dollars. Except in the case of orders from abroad, or by special action of the Council, orders will not be accepted after August 1st, 1919. Subscriptions, stating the number and the metal desired, accompanied by cheques to the order of the American Numismatic Society, should be addressed to the American Numismatic Society, Broadway and 156th Street, New York, N. Y.

Edward D. Adams,
John I. Waterbury,
W. Gedney Beatty,
Sydney P. Noe,

Committee on the Publication of Medals.




TO COMMEMORATE
THE INTERNATIONAL
CELEBRATION OF
INDEPENDENCE DAY
JULY 4 1915

Dr. Kunz suggests that the Fourth of July medal subscription be open to members of the Mayor's Committee for the Celebration of July 4th, 1918,. (8 to 9 hundred names). Presumably he can secure the list and bring the matter formally to their attention. He half promised to write me a letter suggesting this course of action.

S. P. Noe.

Dear Sir:

The American Numismatic Society is planning to issue a medal to commemorate the growing tendency among the democratic nations of the world to celebrate our Fourth of July. We feel that this will give as few other subjects can, an opportunity for exalting our national principles.

We regret exceedingly that our Society, like every other educational institution at this time, must give unmue place to the matter of cost. I am sending this letter to you and to several other medallists of our membership to ask whether you will consider doing this medal, and on what terms.

We are not asking that you submit a design for a competition. We desire, when the award has been made, that a sketch of the design for the medal be submitted for the approval of our Committee before work on the model proceeds. The medal is to be 75 mm in size and would be issued in silver and bronze. Please also state whether you could give immediate attention to the matter. I should be very glad further to enlighten you upon the subject, or to have you arrange an appointment by telephone (Audubon 2484 - Mr. Noe).

August 5th, 1918.

Hon. Robert Lansing,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

We are informed that the State Department has been receiving this year details of the world-wide celebration of the Fourth of July. In view of the significance of these celebrations and of the tribute which they pay to our national principles, The American Numismatic Society is planning to issue a medal which will embody a permanent reminder of it. This medal is to be the work of one of our prominent sculptors, and up to the high standard of those previously issued by our Society. May I respectfully request that you place at our disposal a memorandum furnishing the names of the countries which have celebrated the Fourth of July this year, together with such pertinent details regarding this celebration as may seem advisable to you.

Trusting that we may count upon your endorsement of our prospective medal to this extent, I beg to subscribe myself

Yours very respectfully,

Secretary.

August 8th, 1918.

Allen S. Newman, Esq.,
[illegible],
Kingston, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Newman:-

Your sketches arrived yesterday, and I think by combining one of your obverse designs with a suggestion which I am about to describe we shall obtain a medal which will be highly satisfactory.

The obverse showing the United States ringing the Liberty Bell seems to embody the idea we wish to express better than anything which has appeared yet. We understand that this is but a sketch, and that it will of course be even more pleasing after you have worked on it.

The reverse is a more difficult matter. You must allow space for a rather lengthy inscription, and this is not permitted by either of the designs submitted by you. A suggestion has been made that we ought to be able to secure a pleasing result by making a decorative frame for this inscription, the frame to consist of shields bearing the arms of the many countries which celebrated the Fourth of July this year. I have written to the Secretary of State asking for this information, but even if he does not place the data before us immediately, the newspaper accounts inform us that there were a sufficient number to permit this design. I am enclosing a very crude sketch which gives the germ of the idea. We will endeavor to provide the inscription in a little while. In the meantime will you let me have your frank opinion of the entire matter, and we shall then be one step nearer a position from which we can go ahead.

Hoping that you have been able to escape some of the terrific heat of the past three days, I am,

Yours very respectfully,

Secretary.

August 23rd, 1918.

Mr. Edward S. Rochester, Editor,
Official U. S. Bulletin,
16 Jackson Place,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Our Society is planning to issue a medal commemorating the celebration of the 4th of July by the various foreign nations, and we are going to designate these different nations in one form or another on the reverse. Could you supply us a list of the nations that observed the 4th of July or in any way are entitled to be commemorated on our medal? Unfortunately we do not have copies of the Official Bulletin for the early part of July where according to your index mention of these countries is made.

I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

Curator,

New PO address
Kingston N.Y. RFD 3

Mr dear Mr Noe:

As we arranged, I am sending you by this mail in separate package, a couple of sketches.

The Liberty Bell was selected as a motif as it lends itself to the idea of celebration.

Putting it in the arm of Mercury, the Herold of the Gods, with his staff denoting peaceful intercourse suggests that the celebration is universal.

As Mercury was born in the fourth month, the number four was always held sacred to him.

How would "Universalis dies Libertatis" do for the inscription on the reverse?

My aim is to make a legable, dignified medal with the composition fitting the space available, avoiding cutting up the surface with too small figures or a number of them.

It would be my preference to have the rim of the medal irregular to avoid the too apparent machine finish.

The other sketch is an alternative but in my opinion a secondary consideration.

Did you receive the Joan of Arc medal?

Sincerely yours

Allen G Newman

BONNIE HALL
MARBLETOWN, N.Y.

P.O. Kingston N.Y.
RFD 3

Sept 17, 1918

BOSSIE HALL
MARBLETOWN, N.Y.

My dear Mr Roe:

I am interested to hear what disposal has been made of the Fourth of July medal and hope you will write me about it when you have a few minutes leisure as it may be some time yet before I have to come to N.Y.

Trusting that you had a most enjoyable vacation I remain

Sincerely yours
Albert J. Newman

Sydney P. Roe Esq.
N.Y. City

Sept 24. 1918

My dear Mr Roe:

From your letter of Sept 23rd I take it that the 4th of July medal proposition is still open.

Why not send me an order for this work subject to approval of a design for the reverse and I can then take up the matter more seriously and I do not doubt successfully.

I was sorry to hear that your vacation had not been entirely successful and hope nothing serious prevented its full enjoyment.

Most truly yours

Allen G. Newman

BONNIE HALL
MARBLETOWN, N.Y.

Sydney H. Roe Esq.
Sec. Am. Numismatic Soc.
New York City

4th of July Folder

September 23rd, 1918.

Mr. Allen G. Newman,
R. F. D. 3,
Kingston, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Newman:-

I am sorry to have been obliged to delay answering your letter of the 17th. My vacation has been a troubled one, and I have not yet gotten back into work.

Mr. Wood has been making some casts from coins of the coats of arms of some of the countries that celebrated the Fourth of July, and these can be sent you soon. The task of securing a suitable reverse is a difficult one, but I am confident that you will find a solution. We are all not yet ready to give up the medal.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary.

sent to R. F. D. #3
Kingston, N. Y.

September 26th, 1918.

Mr. Allan G. Newman,
Bonnie Hall,
Marbletown, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Newman:-

Mr. Noe has asked me to answer your last letter as I probably will attend to this medal from now on. It was my understanding that you had been commissioned to do this Fourth of July medal. However, I can say that you are to go ahead with this and submit for approval a design for the reverse embodying coats of arms of the various countries that celebrated this holiday.

The obverse if I remember correctly has a figure holding a Liberty Bell. This liberty bell of course should be a fac-simile of the original. If you have no photographs I think I can find a good reproduction of the medal. On second thought I think I will send up to you a small replica of this liberty bell.

The reverse side has now been decided upon to have the shields of the different countries grouped in a circle around the edge with the United States shield at the top and a little larger; or if you think it would work in better to put the shield of the United States in the field and not in the circle, similar to rough sketches I am enclosing.

I am also sending up to you plaster reproductions of the arms of the different countries which I have taken from coins. These I thought would be better than sending you drawings as these show just how they have been cut officially on the medals. The French shield is not included as I can not find it on a coin, but I am enclosing a rough drawing of how it should be.

Yours very truly,

Curator.